

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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3 A medicament tablet dispensing system and method
4 dispenses any selected number of tablets, up to a maximum
5 number, with minimal dispensing delays. A preset number of
6 tablets are counted and stored in dedicated chambers.
7 During dispensing operations, the preset number of tablets
8 are emptied from one or more of the dedicated chambers,
9 thereby avoiding delays associated with counting all of the
10 dispensed tablets. Furthermore, an overflow chamber is
11 provided for temporarily storing (and subsequent
12 dispensing) tablets which are fed to and counted by the
13 counter after the chambers are filled with their respective
14 number of tablets. In addition, a direct feed channel is
15 provided for dispensing individually counted tablets. The
16 chambers and direct feed channel can together dispense the
17 selected number. It is also preferable that the chambers
18 have subchambers, and that more than one subchamber be
19 capable of being emptied during a single dispensing
20 operation.